



Zero Waste Arlington November 2023 - Meeting Minutes

Date: 11/28/23

Time: 7pm

Location: *Online Zoom Meeting*

Attendees: Priya Sankalia, Scott Mullen, Jennifer Campbell, Jim Ballin, Larry Slotnick, Paul Goldberg, Sarah Kmetz, Amy Speare, Margie Bell

Guests:

1. Old Business
 - a. Review and approve October 2023 ZWA meeting minutes.
2. New Business
 - a. Our stance on black plastic
 - b. Endorsing EPR and Skip the stuff legislation
 - c. Comprehensive Hauler Regulation to increase recycling by Arlington restaurants
 - d. AoT working group meeting update
 - e. Plan for meeting with LexZero
 - f. Miscellaneous

Minutes

1. Committee approved October 2023 minutes
2. Comprehensive hauler regulation
 - a. Priya gave update on the conversation with Charlotte
3. Endorsing EPR
 - a. Do we need to check with Town Counsel if there are any restrictions on political advocacy work
 - b. Skip the Stuff bill - Reusable New England is going to send a joint letter or we can send our own letter and they have draft content. Margie thinks it would be good if we signed on.
<https://www.reusablenewengland.com/skipthestuffemail>
 - i. It would be good if the Chamber of Commerce could sign up - Amy said we could share the data we have from the outreach with Beth Locke.
 - ii. Maybe a couple of our restaurant friends could ask Beth about signing up.

- iii. We could separately ask the restaurants to do this but the chamber would be more effective.
 - iv. Priya will fill out the form and upload the logo and we'll write the letter with the data that we have on the restaurant outreach.
 - v. Paul wanted to know the history of the legislation so we can strategize for future
 - vi. LexZero has shared their support.
 - vii. Amy will work with Emily and Margie to see how they can package the data that they have collected.
 - viii. Margie thinks we should cover all the restaurants before giving any statistics. Maybe after surveying the restaurants then we reach out to Beth.
- c. EPR Endorsement - we're already on board with this per Paul but Priya will go ahead and fill out the form as Co-Chair of ZWA
- 4. Our meeting with Alan (Newton) and LexZero will give us insight on what we could pursue for potential bills.
 - a. Black plastic - even if we don't do a ban Jim suggests some outreach to the restaurants
- 5. Jennifer gave an update on AoT
 - a. All water filling stations are offline for now
 - b. We are out of the state funds now. Should we approach him for more funds? Larry is going to reach out to Joe Connelly and Jim Fenney to get the budget info and what their feedback is on our proposed locations.
 - c. Larry is also checking with Mike Rademacher about when the outdoor stations will be turned on
 - d. Jim added that the town is treating these as a pilot - town is concerned about the maintenance. The town may want another season to see how they operate.
 - e. The upside is that Joe Connelly has said that as they do the playground updates these can be added in.
- 6. Larry suggested that we use the Chamber of Commerce and Beth Locke to see if she can help us with our communication - maybe we draft an email that she can send out with some information that we want to share with the restaurants.
 - a. Restaurants aren't represented well on the Board
 - b. There might be some synergy in working with the Chamber
- 7. Mully wanted to know how we can amplify the Middle Schoolers project - could be a great story for our website. Priya will check with Jennifer/Annie - Finance Committee
- 8. Paul updated the committee on the paint bill and how it's progressing in the state house. Good chance of it passing this session.
- 9. LexZero meeting on 12/3 from 2:30 to 4:00
- 10. Next meeting 12/21

Meeting adjourned at 8:36